



Farm Bureau of Ventura County Invests in our Youth and the UC 4-H Youth Development Program

When 4-H in Ventura County sought to raise funds that would help it meet the needs of local youth now and in the future, the community responded with tremendous generosity.

A national youth development organization, 4-H aims to empower young people with leadership skills for personal and professional growth. In California, the 4-H program falls under the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources umbrella and is administered through local UC Cooperative Extension offices based in counties across the state.

In May 2023, the Ventura 4-H Volunteer Management Board established the Forever 4-H Ventura County Endowment to ensure sustained financial support for future Ventura County 4-H youth. Recognizing the value of long-term financial sustainability for 4-H, the **Ventura County Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture** organized a donation drive to grow the endowment. By May 2024, their members and supporters had donated over \$30,000 in support of Ventura County 4-H youth.

“With deep gratitude, the UC 4-H Youth Development program in Ventura County would like to thank every individual and organization for their generosity,” said Shannon Klisch, UC Cooperative Extension Area Director. “A special thank you to our partners at the Farm Bureau of Ventura County for their leadership in raising over \$30,000 to support 4-H youth. We know that 4-H youth are more likely to be civically engaged and make healthy choices than their peers and the difference that 4-H can make is in large part due to the supporters and donors that make programming possible.”

Our goal is to grow the endowment over the next five years. Once it reaches a value of \$100,000, funds from the endowment will support 4-H seniors with college scholarships and assist in establishing 4-H camp in Ventura County, providing youth with opportunities to develop leadership and life skills.

To learn more about the Forever 4-H Endowment Fund, visit:

https://ucanr.edu/sites/4hfoundation/Forever_4-H/

To learn more about 4-H in Ventura County, visit:

https://ceventura.ucanr.edu/Families_-_Communities/